Frequently Asked Questions

What is the purpose of the study?

The purpose of the study is to learn how daily stress may affect factors that contribute to being overweight.

Who can participate?

- * African American and Caucasian men & women (non pregnant)
- * 18- 45 yrs old
- * Free from major disease including but not limited to high blood pressure, heart disease, diabetes

What are the benefits?

You will receive, at no cost to you, a medical health screening to include a heart screening, body fat assessment, blood pressure screening, blood sugar screening, and an individualized exercise prescription.

Will I be paid for participation in the study?

Yes, you will be financially compensated for your time and participation up to \$450 upon completion of the study. Your commitment to the study requires 4 visits to the Human Performance Laboratory.

Will I be stuck with a needle?

An experienced and trained technician will insert a needle and place a catheter into your arm vein once each visit. This will allow for several blood draws once the catheter has been inserted.

What is the liquid meal I would be taking each visit?

It is Ensure Plus – a cold beverage similar to a smoothie. It comes in a variety of flavors including butter pecan, chocolate, vanilla, and strawberry. It is lactose free and Kosher.

What should I wear for my visits?

You will be exercising on a treadmill, so bring comfortable workout clothes and walking/running shoes. Women may choose to wear a sports bra. Be mindful that the lab tends to be cool, so bring a second layer of clothes or a sweat shirt to keep warm.

What medications will I be taking?

The study has 3 different sets of pills that you will self administer. They are Dexamethasone and Hydrocortisone – these are similar to natural substances found in your body and are responsible for helping your body cope with stress. You will also take a placebo, which is a "fake" pill and has no active effect – like a sugar pill.

What time am I expected to be at the lab?

Because our study is dependent on the way your body's hormones change throughout the day - it is important that you come on time in the morning! Your appointment time will begin at 6:45 am or 7:45 am.



How do I sign up?

Call the Human Performance Lab at (301)295-1371. Ask for Stacey or Nicole.